

October 20, 1954

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO HELD IN THE
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 20, 1954 AT 9:30 A.M.

PRESENT: SCHERLEN, OLIVER, RUDELOFF, DILLASHAW, RUSSELL, WHITE, LACY, LESTER, GONZALEZ

The Clerk read the call of the meeting as follows:

Mr. J. Frank Gallagher
City Clerk
San Antonio, Texas

Dear Sir:

Under authority vested in me by the Charter of the City of San Antonio, I hereby request that you call a Special Meeting of the City Council to convene at 9:30 A.M. Wednesday, October 20, 1954, in the City Hall for the good of the City.

Yours very truly,

/s/ R. L. Lester

Mayor

Honorable Mayor and Members of Council
City of San Antonio, Texas

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to a written request filed by Mayor R. L. Lester you are hereby called into a Special Session of the City Council to be held in the City Hall at 9:30 A.M., Wednesday, October 20, 1954, for the good of the City.

Yours very truly,

J. Frank Gallagher

City Clerk

Receipt of the above Notice of Special Meeting of the City Council is hereby acknowledged.

/s/ R. L. Lester
/s/ H. L. Dillashaw
/s/ John Oliver
/s/ R. N. White, Jr.

/s/ Emil O. Scherlen
/s/ Walter Rudeloff
/s/ Raymond R. Russell, Jr.
/s/ H. B. Gonzalez

The City Manager asked the City Council to pass on the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE 20,653

ACCEPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE EXISTING GRANT
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO PERTAINING TO IMPROVEMENTS
TO BE CONSTRUCTED AT THE SAN ANTONIO INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE
SAID AMENDMENT

(Full text in Ordinance Book AA page 339)

The ordinance was passed by the following vote: AYES, Scherlen, Oliver, Rudeloff, Dillashaw, White, Lacy, Lester, Gonzalez; NAYS, none; ABSENT, Russell.

Mr. Russell arrived at this time and was marked present. The Clerk then read the following letter:

San Antonio, Texas
October 20, 1954

To The City Council:

I want to thank my many friends who have urged me to remain on the Council, because it is obvious that the purported election would be declared void by the courts regardless of its outcome.

It has been my desire at all times to serve the people of San Antonio and be a good public servant. The forces against me and against the best interest of the people have been bitter and unrelenting.

There has been no charge against me except that I refused to retain a man as City Manager at the dictates of a self appointed boss and his hirelings.

Let us pray that the young men we have selected to fill our places will be free of the abuse that has been heaped upon me and upon my associates of the majority of the Council, and it is my hope that further strife and confusion can be avoided, that my enemies will give these young men an opportunity to carry on the affairs of our City in a proper and orderly manner.

Since it is my desire to see a resumption of the orderly processes of our City Government and in the hope that this will result, and to save the City the expense and turmoil of an election, I am resigning.

Trusting that these young men will have the full support of the patriotic citizens of our City, I hereby tender my resignation as Mayor and Member of the City Council, effective immediately.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ R. L. Lester

After the reading, Mr. Oliver nominated Mr. William L. Barrett, Jr. as Councilman to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Lester's resignation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dillashaw.

Mr. Scherlen, Mr. Russell and Mr. Gonzalez made protests over the unseemly haste in filling the vacancy. Also questioned the advisability of bringing in so many very young men.

After their talks, the roll was called on Mr. Barrett's nomination and he was elected by the following vote: AYES, Oliver, Rudeloff, Dillashaw, White, Lacy; NAYS, Scherlen, Russell; NOT VOTING, Gonzalez.

The meeting then adjourned on viva-voce vote.

APPROVED:

R. L. Lester
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Frank Gallagher
City Clerk